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MEDIA RELEASE
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**CITIZEN OF BRAZIL SENTENCED
IN CONNECTION WITH PAYROLL SCHEME**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE - United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Special Agent in Charge of the Boston Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Kenneth W. Kaiser, announced that Patricio Machado, a resident of Brazil, has been sentenced to one year and one day in prison for his participation in a scheme to steal money from a Virginia company that hired laborers to work publicly funded construction sites. Machado pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and use false Social Security numbers, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§371 and 1343 and 42 U.S.C. §408(a)(7)(B) last May.

According to prosecutors, Machado and an unidentified co-conspirator induced a company in Virginia to provide enough money to a company which Machado controlled and to have them pay the prevailing hourly wage (mandated by federal and state law) to construction laborers who were employed by other companies. Machado and the co-conspirator then paid the workers less the prevailing hourly wage, keeping the difference for themselves. They would then bill the Virginia company for work that was (allegedly) performed by fictitious laborers. Prosecutors also alleged that Machado and the co-conspirator used false Social Security numbers to identify the fictitious laborers and the laborers to whom wages were actually owed.

Machado was also ordered to pay more than \$210,000.00 in restitution to the Virginia Company. Upon completion of his prison sentence, Machado will be deported to Brazil.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono praised the FBI's investigation of the case and stated, "This case reflects our commitment to the vigilant enforcement of those laws here in New Hampshire." This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Kinsella.